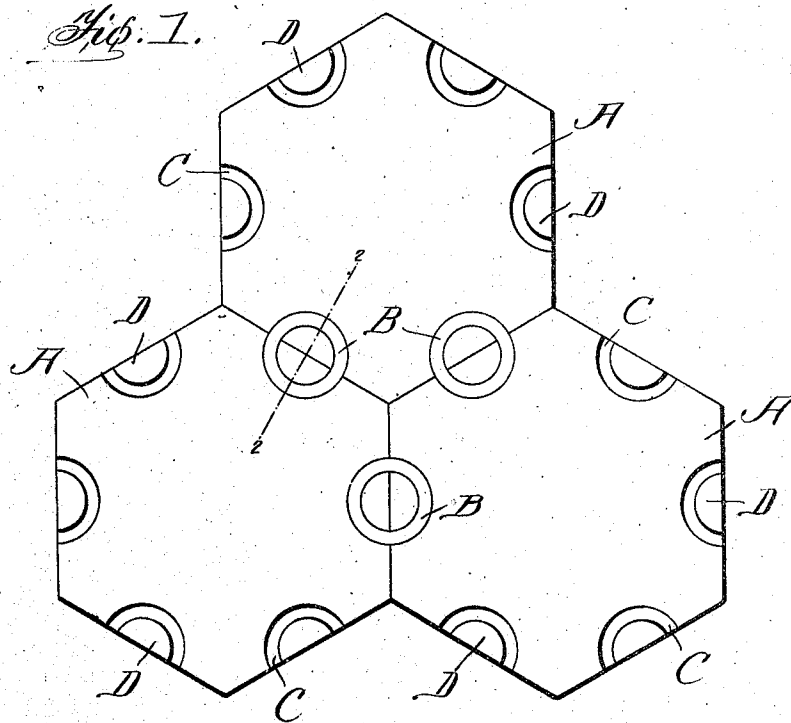
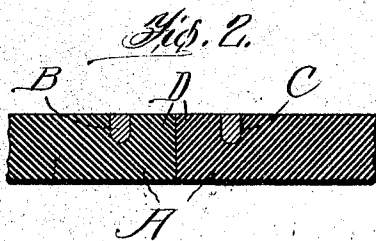
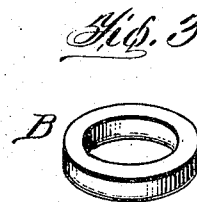


C. E. HYKE.
TILING.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 17, 1908.

905,189.

Patented Dec. 1, 1908.



WITNESSES:

Oliver W. Holmes
J. J. Sheehy Jr.

INVENTOR

BY

Charles E. Hyke.
James Phuby
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES EDWARD HYKE, OF GOSHEN, INDIANA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO WESTERN RUBBER COMPANY, OF GOSHEN, INDIANA.

TILING.

No. 905,189.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 1, 1908.

Application filed April 17, 1908. Serial No. 427,595.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES EDWARD HYKE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Goshen, in the county of Elkhart and State of Indiana, have invented new and useful Improvements in Tiling, of which the following is a specification.

My invention pertains to tiling and more particularly to tiling comprising tiles of rubber or other elastic material, and contemplating the provision in combination with elastic tiles, of rigid means for connecting adjoining tiles; the said rigid means being so constructed and arranged, relative to the tiles, that the tiles are firmly held close together in such manner that the liability of the tiles breaking away from the connecting means is reduced to a minimum.

The invention also contemplates the provision in combination with elastic tiles, of connecting means which, when arranged in the upper surfaces of tiles laid on a floor, are calculated to improve the wearing qualities of the tile and at the same time enhance the beauty of the tiling as a whole.

Other advantageous features of the invention will be fully understood from the following description and claim when the same are read in connection with the drawings, accompanying and forming part of this specification, in which:

Figure 1 is a view showing tiles connected together in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is an enlarged section taken in the plane indicated by the line 2-2 of Fig. 1 and illustrating the arrangement of one of the rigid and open connecting devices relative to the adjoining portions of two tiles. Fig. 3 is a view of one of the said connecting devices removed.

Similar letters designate corresponding parts in all of the views of the drawings, referring to which:

A A are tiles, of rubber or other elastic material, such as are designed more particularly for floor tiles, and B B are rigid and open tile-connecting devices, of metal or any other material consonant with the purpose of said devices. The tiles A may be of hexagonal or other suitable form in outline, and they are peculiar in that each is provided in one of its sides with grooves C, preferably of semi-circular form, the ends of which grooves are arranged at the edge of the tile, whereby it will be manifest that the outer walls of

the grooves are formed by tile portions D which also form portions of the edges of the tile. The connecting devices B are preferably of circular form, and are made of such size that they are adapted to be crowded into the grooves C of the tiles, and when so crowded are adapted to rest flush with the surfaces of the tiles and be securely held against casual displacement by the elasticity thereof.

It will be gathered from the foregoing that the ring-like connecting devices B are adapted to be expeditiously and easily placed in the meeting grooves C of adjoining tiles to connect the said tiles together, and that when so placed the said connecting devices are adapted to firmly retain the tiles in place and assure close joints between the same. It will also be gathered that because of the ring-like connecting devices being provided with openings slightly smaller than the tile portions D, the connecting devices serve when forced over the said portions D of adjoining tiles, to operate after the manner of a cam and draw the tiles together and compress the tile portions within the connecting devices and in that way assure a perfectly tight joint such as will preclude the deposit of dirt and the like between the tiles. Moreover it will be noted that the connecting devices B may be used in either the inner sides or the outer sides of the tiles, and that when used in the outer or upper sides of floor tiles, the connecting devices of metal or other strong material are calculated to contribute materially to the lasting quality of the tiles, and are also calculated, when of a color in contrast to that of the tiles, to enhance the beauty of the tile floor as a whole.

By virtue of the portions D of adjoining tiles being arranged in and entirely surrounded by open or ring-like connecting devices, it will be manifest that a considerable portion of each tile is engaged by the connecting device which contributes materially to the strength and durability of the connection, and at the same time an elastic surface or body is disposed inside the connecting device as well as outside the same, and in this way the rigid or non-elastic connecting device is prevented from materially detracting from the elastic or cushioning quality of the floor of tiles.

When my novel connecting devices are ar-

ranged in the inner or under sides of elastic tiles, it will be noted that the tiles are drawn so closely together that there is practically no liability of foreign substance finding its way between the opposed edges of tiles, and hence the floor formed by the tiles may be cleaned and kept clean with the expenditure of but a minimum amount of effort.

The construction herein illustrated and described constitutes the best practical embodiment of my invention known to me, but it is obvious that in the future practice of the invention such changes in form may be made as fairly fall within the scope of my invention as defined in the claim appended.

Having described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters-Patent, is:

A plurality of tiles of elastic quality, ar-

ranged to form a plane surface and provided in said surface with closed grooves overlapping the joints between the said tiles, combined with open, rigid, connecting devices, of the same form as the grooves, having openings slightly smaller than the edge portions of the tiles within the grooves thereof, and seated in the said grooves, with their upper sides flush with the said surface, whereby they are retained in position by the elasticity of the tiles, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHARLES EDWARD HYKE.

Witnesses:

B. F. DEAHL,

G. B. SLATE.